

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WHITE HOUSE SUPPORT STAFF

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Item No.: WH 1

DIRECTOR: WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

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SUBJECT: CAMBODIA--THE MILITARY SITUATION

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Nine 82-mm. mortar rounds hit a refugee camp on the southeastern edge of Phnom Penh on February 5, according to press reports.

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On the southern front, Cambodian Army reinforcements met little resistance in moving south of the Prek Thnaot River to join other government troops on Route 3 yesterday. Sporadic and inconclusive skirmishing continued elsewhere along the front. Government clearing operations between Route 1 and the Bassac River are at a standstill as local unit commanders are attending a meeting at army headquarters in Phnom Penh. A few miles north of the city, Communist units are giving ground in the fighting near the Prek Phnou oil storage on Route 5. The Communists have apparently moved a 105-mm. howitzer up to support their troops on this front. In the countryside, Communist gunners fired nearly one hundred 105-mm. rounds into

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the provincial capital of Takeo yesterday; casualty reports have not yet been received.